

SPORTS / A26

San Antonio Spurs advance to NBA finals

NEWS / A2

Ombudsman sacks AFP chief accountant for unexplained wealth

METRO / A19

Bus robbery turns into hostage-taking, ends in 5 deaths

ACROSS / A18

Gunmen release 4 hostages after brief captivity

Baguio school offers 'pay-per-view' courses



By Vincent Cabreza

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, June 1, 2007 • Vol. 22 • No. 173

US, Iran listed far down in peacefulness study

RP, Australia sign pact on joint military games

By Michael Lim Ubac



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and Australian Prime Minister John Howard applaud as Philippine Defense Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane (left) and Australian Defense Minister Brendan Nelson exchange copies of the Status of Forces Agreement in Canberra.

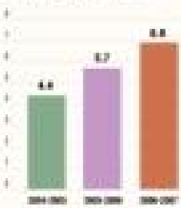
Economy expands 6.9%

RP is on a roll, GMA says of strongest growth in 17 years

By Michelle V. Remo

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY SURGED 6.9 PERCENT IN THE first quarter of the year from the same period in 2006, way above expectations, prompting officials to declare that the country was no longer a laggard in Asia.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT



What growth means to ordinary folk

By Michelle V. Remo



PABLO: Seventh Filipino to reach Everest's peak.

Mountaineer fulfills 15-yr dream

By Tara Quismundo

Mountain resort attracts election 'rice traders'



By Pa Zamora

North, South Cotabato poll supervisors relieved

By Jeoffrey R. Uy and Nikko Dizon

Second FrontPage

WEATHER FORECAST

12-0 just a slogan, TU admits

MALACAÑANG APPEARS READY TO KISS ITS dream of a 12-0 sweep of the senatorial race goodbye.

Pagasa: Rainy season upon us

AFP accountant with P35M in unexplained wealth sacked

CA upholds QC exec's dismissal


REWARDS
REBATES
Any HSBC credit card can get you both.
CALTEX
HSBC
The world's local bank


INQUIRER
Dare to ask. Be an Inquirer.
Goodbye Lipo, Hello Ultrashape!

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

to the

NYK-TDG MARITIME ACADEMY (NTMA)

FIRST BATCH OF CADETS

SCHOOL YEAR 2007-2008

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE ENGINEERING



NYK LINE

MR. KOJI MIYAHARA
President

MS. PATRICIA A. STO. TOMAS
Chairman, Board of Trustees

C/E WILSON P. TRAVIÑA
President

Transnational Diversified Group

MR. J. ROBERTO C. DELGADO
Founder and Group Chairman

Proclaim 13 winners for senator, Lim urges

Photog Nievera; 83

RP, Australia sign pact on joint military games

Criminal jurisdiction

No basing rights

2 agreements

Mountaineer ...

Reasons to turn back

Temporary setback

Unfazed by deaths

'I gave up a lot'

VIP treatment? Pacman's HS diploma questioned

By Jerry E. Esplanada

Mountain resort attracts election 'rice traders'

PARTY-LIST VOTES

Not sole target

Not actually zero

Muslim vote

No bias

US, Iran listed far down in peacefulness ...

Wake-up call

Not a value judgment

Useful tool

Global Peace Index

British embassy now using biometrics in new visa center

By Cynthia D. Balana

[illegible]

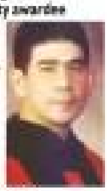
2 factions feuding over Buhay party-list seats

By Jocelyn R. Uy



NEWSBRIEFS

RP doc is Michigan State medicine faculty awardee


PRIETO

'Noli' art exhibit



Trees for the 'desaparecidos'


MGA
ENGINEERS
ANG NAGPAPAIKOT NG MUNDO
TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
TIP Quezon City and TIP Manila
TIP Quezon City and TIP Manila


Canon
GIVE YOUR BUSINESS A LITTLE COLOR


ISUZU
SUPER
SABADO
BONANZA
A FAMILY DAY EVENT
Great deals
Free Labor on PMS
10% Discount on Parts
Super Game Bonanza
Kiddie Activities
Photo Corner
Raffle Prizes
Face Painting
Free Food
Come, play, enjoy!
Great prizes and fun surprises await you and your whole family!
Join the biggest family day event of the year! Super Saya 'to!
Schedule of Super Sabado Bonanza Family Day events:
May 26 - Batangas
June 9 - San Pablo
June 16 - Isabela
June 30 - Cabanatuan
July 28 - Bulacan
August 4 - Pampanga
August 18 - Pangasinan
August 25 - Cavite
September 8 - Bacolod
September 15 - Iloilo
September 22 - CDO
October 6 - Davao
Shell Diesoline Ultra
3M Scotchtint
AVT
MICHELIN
CENTRO

Philippine Daily Inquirer
Opinion

A class act

NAMFREL SAYS THERE ARE STILL A MILLION votes left to count. Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, spokesman of the administration's Team Unity, says the number is more like five million. But for senatorial candidate Michael Defensor, the end of the road has been reached.

Nick Joaquin once wrote that no one could forget Claro M. Recto's admission of defeat, after his failed presidential bid in 1957: "Espe na ang bolung." How many remember, even just a year from now, when Defensor said Wednesday in his statement conceding defeat. But what he said sent a momentary thrill, at least, through a nation that has seen too many candidates who are unwilling to face reality.

EDITORIAL

"I concede because I love my family and I want my children to learn that there is honor in defeat," Defensor said. And he was right, and he deservedly earned applause for pointing out what many of his political peers forget. It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game. As it is in sports, so it is in politics, so should it be in life.

For a rare, shining moment, Defensor was a class act.

After 20 years of success in politics, this is Defensor's first failure. His admission of defeat, rare in itself for a politician, was accompanied by an even rarer demonstration of political awareness.

[illegible]



GSIS sues NPC for 'theft' of Manansala mural

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

'Inconvenient Truth' sans an Inconvenient Lifestyle?

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

[illegible]

Don't throw it away

COMMENTARY

Suicide barangay

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



Mike's concession

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Moving

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Forget impeachment bid

LETTERS

Time ripe for PLDT boss to seek the presidency

An empty victory for Honasan and Trillanes

What growth means to ordinary folk

Economy expands 6.9%

Investors cheer

Low interest rates

Competitive footing

North, South Cotabato poll supervisors relieved

Electoral sabotage

Under duress

Recipient of largest padded votes



Baguio school offers 'pay-per-view' ...

Right direction

Mismatch

Home schooling

Internet as education medium



Across the NATION

Abra mayor wanted for lawyer's slay

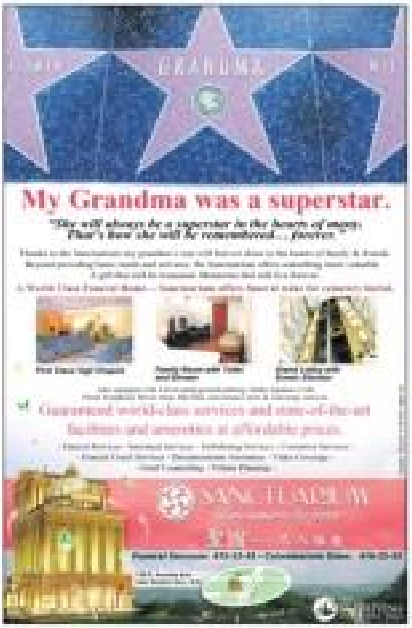
BAGUIO CITY—A judge here on Thursday sentenced a man to 16 to 20 years in prison for the 2005 murder of a public lawyer.





Gunmen release 4 foreign hostages after brief captivity

2,000 American, RP troops start new war games



Cops raid Bulacan site, seize shabu ingredients





BAD TIMING

Teachers say no poll failure in Biñan town

Roundup

3 guerrillas killed in clash

Garcia; 62

Boys wounded by pillbox

Bet's house fired at

Save Liguasan Marsh project



FLAGSHIP PROJECT

Fear disrupts lives of Pampanga village chiefs after polls

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

Sitting ducks

> 'We are the frontline leaders of government but we get little protection...'

License plate

Nervous

News

Speaker's challenger says he's opposite of Joe de V



GARCIA: 'New politics'

A plus METRO



5 killed in hostage drama

Three of six bus robbery suspects arrested

FIVE PEOPLE WERE KILLED yesterday in a robbery-turned-hostage taking incident that began in Makati City and ended in Valenzuela City.

Arson out in Marina fire

Never too early to start

By DJ Yap

High fees push students to public schools

Judge in Jimenez case inhibits herself

MetroBriefs

Palace ready to face charges

Crisologo in hot water

Franciscan Minister General in town

Thaksin banned from Thai politics for 5 years



THAKSIN

Asia expects dramatic surge in cancer rates



WORLD'S TOPSELLING ELECTRONICS DEVICE

WorldBriefs

Malaysia court turns down Christian convert

5 Americans, Briton, Canadian die in crash

Brunei sultan's daughter to wed in June

Bush calls for rise in global AIDS funding

Indonesia confirms 78th bird flu death

Japan rejects war compensation for Koreans

The WORLD

UN creates court for Hariri's murder



UNITED NATIONS—THE UN SECURITY COUNcil on Wednesday voted to set up an international court to try suspects in the murder of Lebanese ex-Premier Rafiq Hariri, whose death sent shock waves through the nation two years ago.

AFP

Rice clashes with Russian on Kosovo, missiles

AFP



Record 514 climbers conquer Everest this year



AFP

Saudi prisoner kills self at Guantanamo, US says

Reuters

SPORTS

PBL FINAL FOUR

Toyota vs Cebuana; Henkel vs Harbour



By Jasmine W. Payo

TOYOTA BALINTAWAK CAME BLAZING ON ALL fronts yesterday to secure the last semifinal berth in the PBL Unity Cup.

Aces eye semis; Adducul debuts for Purefoods



2 Fil-Ams boost RP five pool

By Musong R. Castillo

Ozamiz cagers overpower Montaña Davao

SPORTSWATCH

Tams down Falcons, gain Nike hoop semis

Makati Coliseum 8-cock derby finals today

Roligon Hatawan: P1.5 million at stake

Toyota vs Cebuana; Henkel . . .

VERSUS GUZMAN

Pacquiao fight a handshake away



PACQUIAO



GUZMAN

Lady Pirates make it 5 in row; Lady Stags up



NCA world derby lures tough field

P1-M poker in Tagaytay tomorrow

SPORTS

Shotout: US men go 0-9

Spurs rap Jazz, reach finals



Kobe backs off trade threat

Venus' smashing serve keys win; Roger advances

SPILL-MARRED RACES

Jao, Buncio share Superbikes honors





Ford-Nomads, Rudy Project-DLSU top beach soccer at Playa Calatagan



ACTION in the men's final match between Team Ford-Nomads FC and Kaya FC in the 1st Rudy Project Beach Football Invitational.

Leading Warriors, Archers collide today

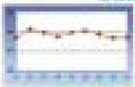
IN THIS ISSUE

Business



Banks to be given freer investment hand

Currencies

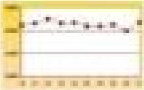


PESO-DOLLAR RATE

Stock Market

Shares close 2.24% higher

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



BSP to initiate new wave of financial liberalization

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS WILL SOON INITIATE measures that will boost the banking system's ability to cope with the challenges and opportunities opened up by the increase in foreign exchange flows.

Political risks seen to weigh heavily on long-term growth prospects

Banks to be given freer ...

Execs want ₱26.5-B IT scheme junked

Tan to list more firms

Debt-to-GDP ratio in '07 seen hitting 58.3%

ABS-CBN to spend ₱1.5B more

Shares close 2.24% ...

Political risks ...

20 local, foreign firms vie for exploration deals

M. Water to bid for sewerage project in HK

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lazaro

DOE expects to award contracts before yearend

By Abigail L. Ho

Bangko Sentral keeps key policy rates, tiering system

By Doris C. Dumlao

Legislative agenda for agriculture

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

Water crisis

Global warming

Trade liberalization

Conclusion

Puregold investing ₱1.2B in new outlets

By Ronnel W. Domingo

Philweb to raise interest in IT affiliate

MALACAÑANG HOSTS FFCCCII OFFICERS





ONE AYALA TEAM SUPPORTS UPMAIA EVENT

Construction Show Cebu 2007 opens

BUSINESS *Friday*

Filipinos *likely to buy* 'green' brands more

But study says many firms claiming to be environment-friendly paying lip service only

Turning a passion for shopping to a selling venture

Novelty product importer teaches the 3Ps



PREMIUM Concepts is one of Cebu's leading lifestyle stores.



ACCESSORIES are new additions to the products lineup.



MELANIE Ng shares her passion for beautiful products.

BIR computer-assisted audits coming your way

Tax-Files

Cebu moves to maximize ...

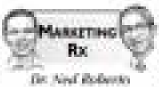
Success is in the follow through ...



PARTNERSHIP EXTENDED.

BUSINESS *Friday*

Success is in the follow through; failure is in the comfort zone



Dr. Ned Roberto & Andy Roberto

Success is in follow through

Staying in comfort zone

Cebu moves to maximize potentials in tourism

LIFESTYLE

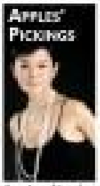
Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso

Coordinating Editors: Apples Aberin-Sadhwani and Jenni Epperson

FASHION



Saigon sensation


APPLES' PICKINGS

Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

Louis Vuitton opens a swanky new store in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

MY IMPRESSIONS OF Saigon, now known as Ho Chi Minh, had been limited to Hollywood stereotypes from movies like "Good Morning Vietnam" or "Platoon," plus of course Broadway images courtesy of "Miss Saigon" that focused on a war-torn city.

So, it was a surprise to learn that Louis Vuitton was opening a store in this exotic locale.

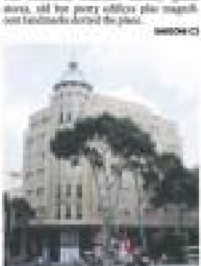
Located in busy District One, right across the Opera House along Dong Khoi Street, the 150-sqm boutique was designed by the Louis Vuitton Malletier Architecture Team. The store features limestone and teak floors, wool carpets, Amazon wood paneling, polished glass walls and polished stainless steel fixtures, in keeping with the new Louis Vuitton interior concept.

The store's most impressive display is a [illegible] wall that holds four LV antique trunks, which greet and lure you as soon as you step into the boutique.

It was also surprising to learn that this was the brand's second store in Vietnam. The first, which opened 10 years ago in Hanoi (roughly two hours away by plane from Ho Chi Minh), is currently doing brisk business, mostly from local clientele.

In any case, my misguided impressions of the city were quickly replaced by fascination at the interesting juxtaposition of old and new modern establishments and very evident French influence. There were certainly no signs of war or strife, except perhaps in the War Remnants Museum. Instead, quaint stores, old but pretty edifices plus magnificent landmarks dotted the place.

SAIGON C3



THE Louis Vuitton boutique in Ho Chi Minh is located in an art deco building situated right across the Opera House in busy District 1.

the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-lection the cool-



Saigon sensation

[illegible]

Painterly fashions

[illegible]

Monograms galore

[illegible]

Dapper dandies

[illegible]

waitlist worthy waitlist worthy waitlist worthy waitlist

CALLING all Louis Vuitton aficionados! Here are Inquirer Fashion's picks for must-have LV bags this coming season. Get in line now!



IT FLOATS! The waterproof Keepall is perfect for the chic adventurer.



THE PRACTICAL but stylish Neverfull can carry it all, kitchen sink included!



TRAVEL in style with this wheeled carryon.



THE Black Mirage Speedy is a polished version of a verifiable classic.

awesome accessories awesome accessories

hers

his



show-off shoes show-off shoes show-off shoes show-off shoes show-off shoes

hers

his



brag bags brag bags brag bags brag bags brag bags brag bags

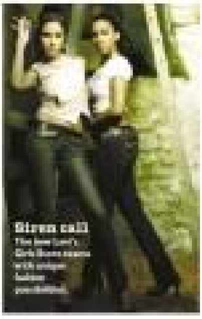
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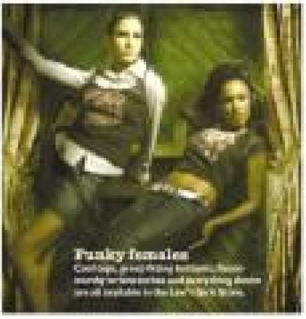



BPI Express Credit
Real Thrills!
Get the reward that's right for you.
BPI Express Credit is the first to give you Real Thrills: an instant rewards system that knows a bit more about you - where you frequently shop and dine, how often, and when. So we can give you gifts that thrill you more - instantly, effortlessly, right where you love to shop.
YOU GET A FREE BOTTLE OF WINE!
ENJOY REAL THRILLS AT THESE PARTNER ESTABLISHMENTS:
Makati Shangri-La Manila
National Book Store
Power Books
Fully Booked
Fifth Avenue
Power Mac Center
Gaudi
red
BPI

Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash Fashion Flash



Siren call
The new Levi's Girls Store comes with unique fashion possibilities.



Funky females
Cool tops, great fitting bottoms, fiesta-worthy accessories and everything denim are all available in the Levi's Girls Store.

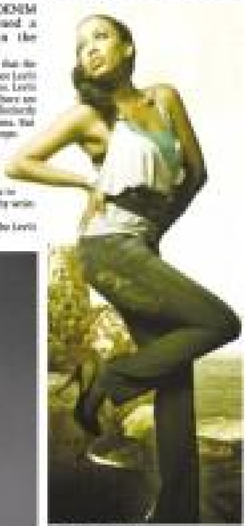
All in the jeans

ATTENTION, FEMME DENIM fans: Levi's has opened a Levi's Girls Store in the Philippines!

It's about time, really, considering that the ladies denim line has been around since Levi's was first introduced in the Philippines. Levi's Girls areas within Levi's boutiques (there are over 150 outlets nationwide) are distinctly feminine, with dedicated fitting rooms. But now there is a boutique designed specially for women customers.

Located at the ground floor of the Festival Supermall in Filinvest, Alabang, the store carries items that will excite fashionistas, from rocking tops to the best-fitting bottoms, fiesta-worthy accessories and everything denim.

Newer product additions include the Levi's Copper, Levi's Lady Style, the Levi's Red Tab line that gives the widest array of fits and finishes, and Levi's Engineered Jeans, for those who want more freedom of movement.



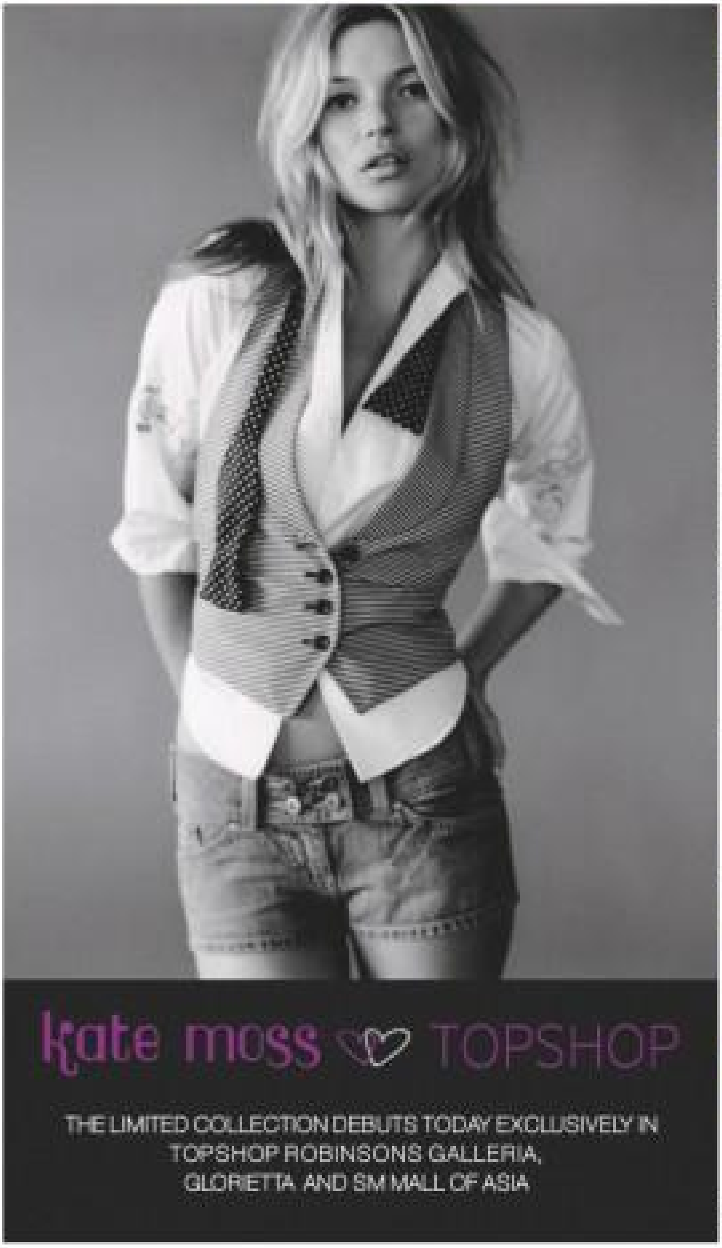
Denim diva
Chic clothing and hip accessories made specifically for women

The Girls Store also represents a new stance of empowerment for women who are on the top of their game. Levi's is affirming every woman's right to have something iconic and timeless that is not derived from the classic masculine aesthetic of the brand. This feminine aesthetic is apparent in the store's interiors: fun and eye-catching accents, a generous use of the color pink and an overall fun, feminine feel that makes every lady feel at home.

The Levi's Girls Store is a place where you can find like-minded trendsetters going through racks and racks of stylish denim and apparel. Best of all, it's a place teeming with endless and unique fashion possibilities. —AKF

Levi's Girl's store is at G/F Filinvest Mall, Alabang. Also watch out for the Levi's Girls Store soon to open at Ayala Center Cebu.

Photography Victor Consunji
[illegible]





Short but sweet
Levi's Girls Levi's Lady Style collection [illegible]

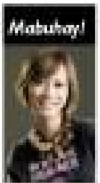
LifeStyle

FASHION



Loud and clear

Amidala



Mabuhay!

Jessi Epperson

Masters like Chanel, Fendi and Michael Kors are going clear this year. Call it plastic chic



Macrame



Technocrati



Plastica









Right as rain

[illegible]

Rain check

To combat the rainy-day blues, use rainbow-colored gear to brighten up your outfits

By [illegible]
Contributor

ALL AROUND THE COUNTRY, students have dark clouds hanging over their heads. In other words, classes are just about to or already have started.

[illegible]

To combat the rainy-day blues, use rain- [illegible]



Rainy days and Mondays

[illegible]

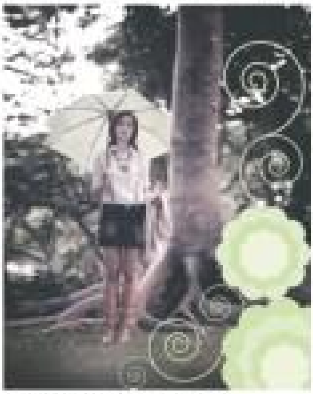


Raindrops and roses

[illegible]

bow-colored gear to brighten up your outfits. [illegible]

[illegible]



Sticky wicket

[illegible]



Cloud nine

[illegible]


Fresh Items And Fresh Discounts Await You This School Year!
The Chain Marts!
Back to School Sale
Cash & Carry
Sale Period:
June 1 to 17, 2007
Campbell's
Cream of Mushroom USA
P38.50
Welch's
Purple Grape Juice
P190.50
Century Tuna Flakes
Cook Best
A1
Steak Sauce Regular
P154.50
Latte
Sun Sun Orange Juice
P19.50
Latte
Choco Pie Vanilla
P46.25
Yummy
Gaia Plus
Colgate

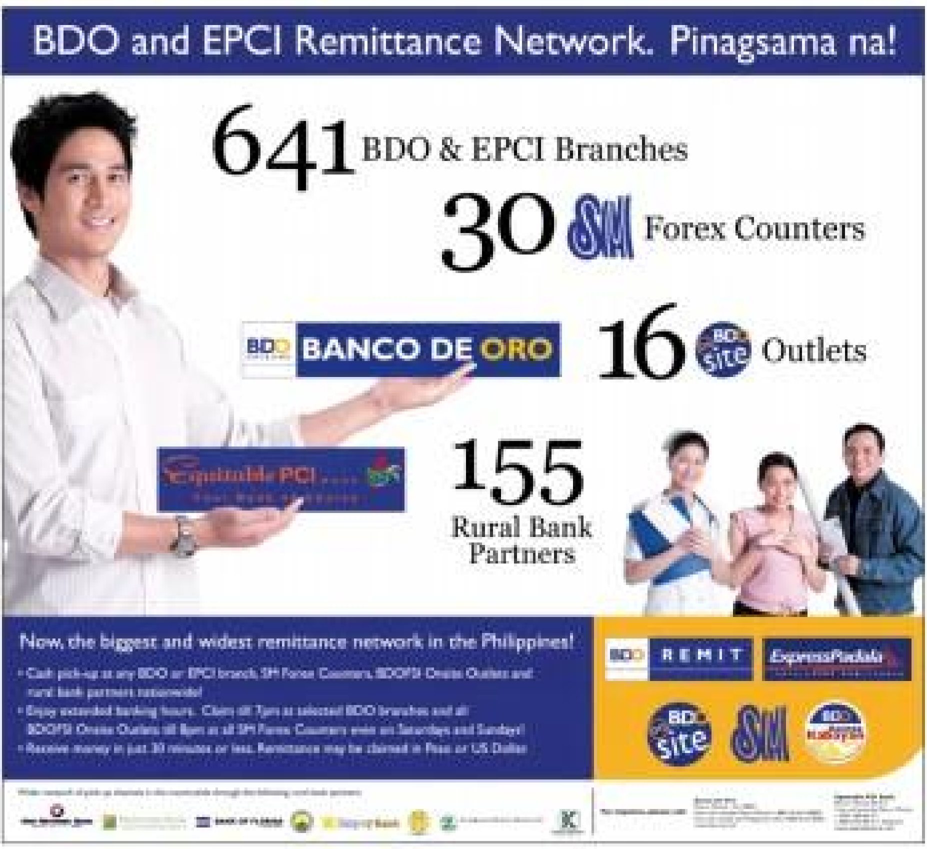




Treasure trove

ARE YOU ON THE LOOK-out for very special pieces that combine both fashion and art? [illegible]

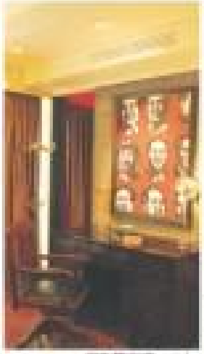


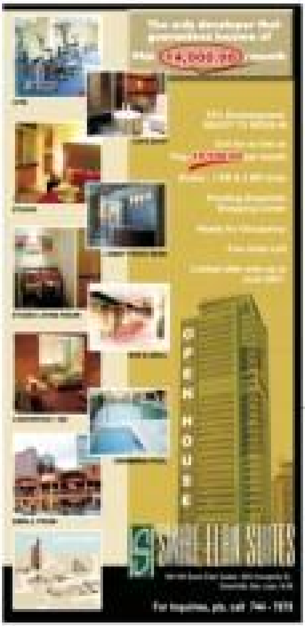


LIFESTYLE

To today's fashionistas, the Chairman is just a graphic design







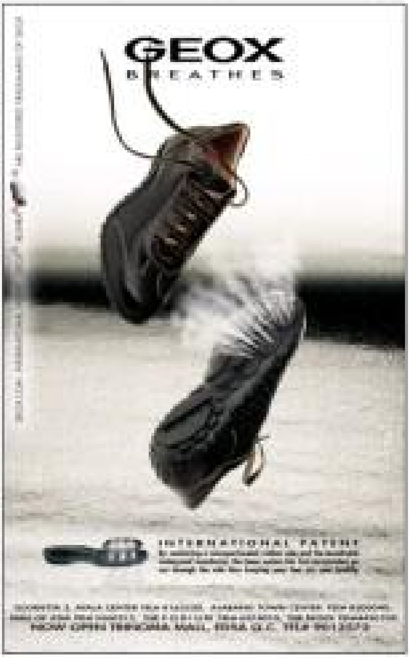
LIFE-STYLED
Thelma Sioson San Juan

Andy Warhol meets Mao



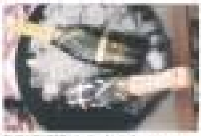
ROOM on Signature Floor of CharterHouse is designed for yuppie business travelers.

Do you have a handy-daddy?



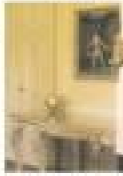
THE EARLY STAGES OF PARENTING

It's all about Stimulation



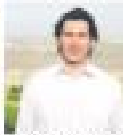












A bubbly time in France

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache







City of lights

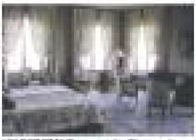




LE RESIDENCE du Trianon

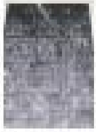


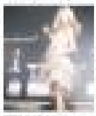












First ambassador

Exquisite meal

Brief history



Anniversary bag





Andy Warhol . . .



LIFESTYLE

BEAUTY

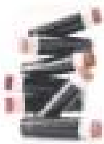


KC's passionate colors













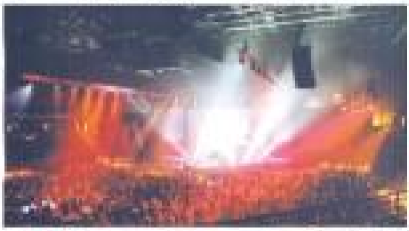


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MATRIX World Tour Asia



MATRIX hair products

Finding the matrix for good hair

The newest baby of cosmetics giant L'Oreal aims to celebrate the unique characteristics of Asian tresses

MAKEOVER 911



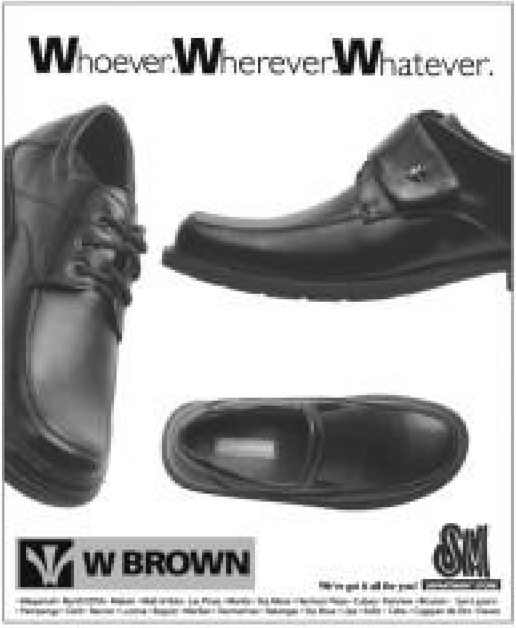
For Asian hair



VAVOOM styling line

GOINGS ON

Agraryo Trade Fair at SM Megamall



ENTERTAINMENT

INSIDE

■ **NUT explains why we're finding it hard to produce another Nilo or Alza** Viewfinder/G4

Notes of a Cannes virgin

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

Walkouts, hostile paparazzi and topless women selling a movie

They wore body paint

Beloved Moore



FIL-AM actress ... and companion



MEN and women wearing only body paint, selling a movie.



A VIEW of the red carpet scene from the top of the Palais steps







G1

ENTERT







Notes of a Cannes virgin



A COCKTAIL party at a penthouse with a view of the Croisette.











Our child stars have lost their sense of wonder

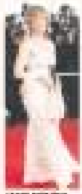
VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

'The Invisible'

Back to basics



JANE FONDA

Surprise for Jane

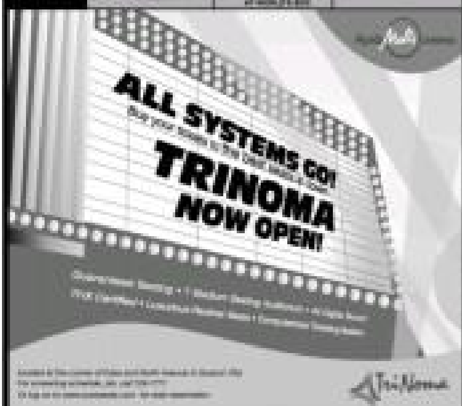
CANNES—THE ... AFP

AT THE CINEMAS

G1				
G4				
GB1				
GB3				
ATC				
ACC				
M2				

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	TOWN CENTER
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!





LIVING Stars

Editor: Emmie G. Velarde



LIFE-SIZE Wonder Woman is the centerpiece of his superheroine collection.

Wenn's world

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Roger Carpio

Even as a child, he was fascinated with all kinds of finned creatures. "I played with colorful guppies found in canals," writer-director Wenn V. Deramas recalls.

As fate would have it, the imaginative kid grew up to direct the ABS-CBN mermaid drama series, "Marina."

"I always get mermaid figurines as gifts from friends," says the same man behind the soap opera "Walang Kapalit" and the hit comedy "Ang Cute ng Ina Mo."

Actress Snooky gave him a Lladro from Europe; actor Lloyd Samartino, another from Japan.

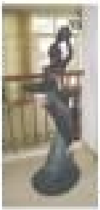
Actress Kyla Valdes created the oil painting of a sea goddess that now hangs in his living room. Wenn explains, "It shows the four elements—water, fire, wind and earth."

Another actress, Jessa Africa, gave him several floral paintings.

A favorite item is the one holding a crystal ball that Wenn bought in Carimar. He remembers that it was the product of tenacious haggling. "The original price was P5,000 but I got it for P3,000."

In San Francisco, the mermaid bargain hunter acquired a pair of overlaid bronze sculptures from the same store frequented by superstar Michael Jackson. The items, priced at $5,000 each, caught Wenn's fancy. He recounts, "That would be one half a million pe-

WENN'S A4





THE WOODEN door is by architect-designer Aloe and Kitchie Co; at left is one of Wenn's two San Francisco mermaids.

The writer-director's Mediterranean home is also a showcase for his extensive collection of mermaid and angel figures



HE OFTEN hangs out in his bedroom, writing scripts by long-hand



INSIDE the home theater are posters of his biggest movie/TV hits, "Bakit Ikaw Pa" and "Nanggigigil Kuha."



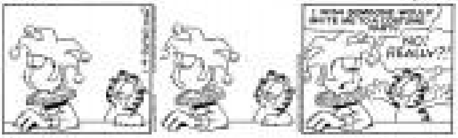
MANILYN REYNES

ANVIL Publishing gives me a stack of books, from its "Ang Mga Kuwento ni Lola Basyang ni Severino Reyes" series, which I read to prepare for my ABS-CBN 7 show, "Mga Kuwento ni Lola Basyang." I learn a lot about our folk tales and culture from these books. "Ang Madaling Tamalis sa Mabait na Bayi" (retold by Christine S. Bellen, with illustration by Albert Gil) tells an interesting, yet awesome story. Mariang, the heroine, is so intelligent that she impresses the king of Bindlo. I read these tales to my sons Kyle and Nick because I want them to develop speaking and reading skills in Filipino. These Filipino books have English versions, too. My son Kyle once did a book report on another "Basyang" story: "The Legend of the Mosquito."

BOOKS

Bayani San Diego Jr.

GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



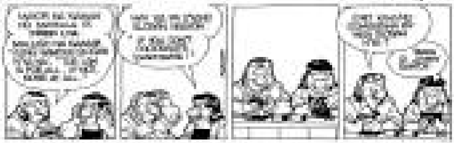
A. LIPIN



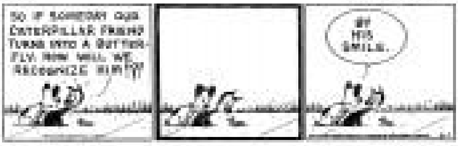
BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

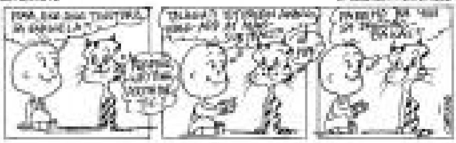


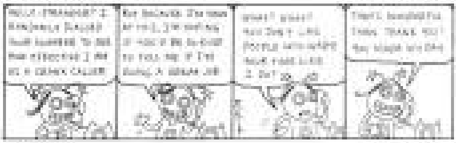
PUGAD BABOY



MUTTS — BY PATRICK McDONNELL



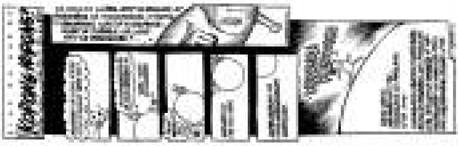


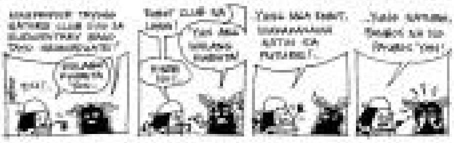


DIVINE COMEDY



KIKO MACHINE

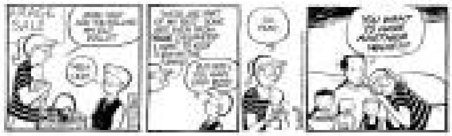




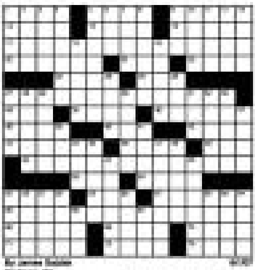
TULDOK

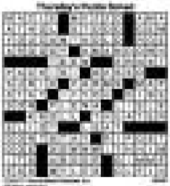


BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

				8		6		
	5		6		1			
						7		3
	9						5	
2				4				8
	6						4	
8		7						
			3		4		2	
		5		2				

Difficulty Level ★★★★

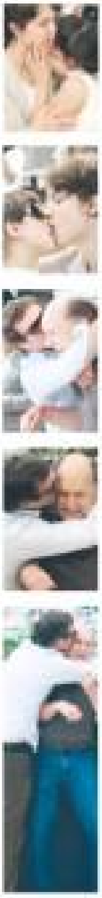
HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

LIVING Stars



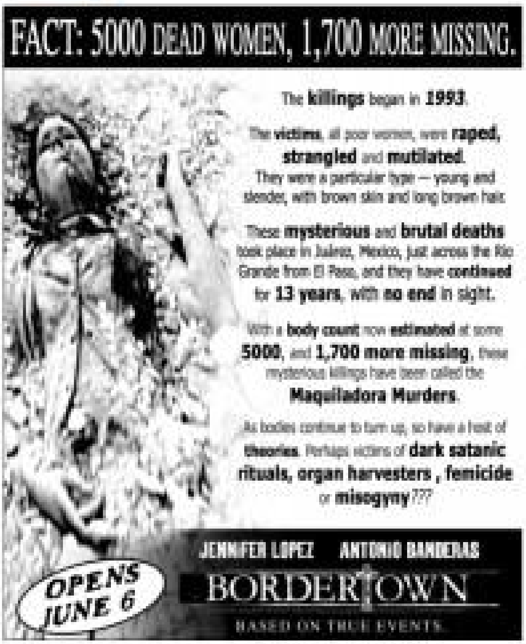
Kissing co-stars











movietime SHOWTIME

Your life as a movie

SM CINEMA



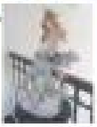
IMAX

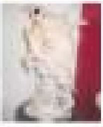




JOYCE JIMENEZ

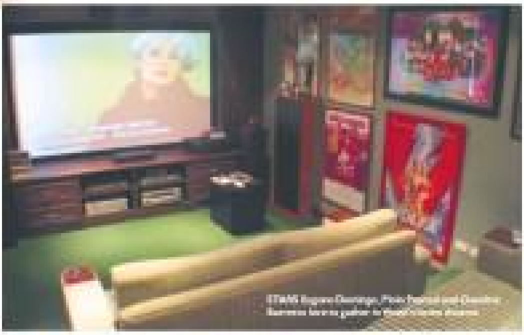












Wenn's world







